

STILL MORE HYSTERIA TALES CALCULATED TO DRIVE YOU REPEATS ITSELF!

MAINLY, OUR PAST RETCHES UP WITH US AGAIN IN

THE NOSTALGIC

TALES CALCULATED TO DRIVE Y

TALES CALCULATED TO DRIVE YOU

THE CHEFTLATED TO DRIVE YOU

This issue is going to change

whole view-

THINK



NUMBER THREE

OUR THIRD FULL-COLOR 10c-TYPE COMIC BOOK BONUS

... Containing An Assortment Of Collector's Items From These Five Valuable Back Issues Of The '50's



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JAMAJD)

"Some people will do anything to hang on to a job . . . except work!"
—Alfred E. Neuman

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JOHN PUTNAM art director LEONARD BRENNER production JERRY De FUCCIO, NICK MEGLIN associate editors JACK ALBERT lawsuits

GLORIA ORLANDO, CELIA MORELLI, ERIKA HOLTON, DAVID FRAZIER subscriptions

> CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS the usual gang of idiots

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MAD—March, 1975, Volume 1, No. 173 Published monthly except February, May, August and November, by E. C. Publications, Inc., 485 MADison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Second Class Postage poid of New York, N.Y. Subscriptions in U.S.A., 20 issues \$10.00. Outside U.S.A., 20 issues \$12.50. Allow 10 weeks for change of address to become affective. Entire contents copyright ⊕ 1975 by E. C. Publications, Inc. The Publisher and Editors will not be responsible for unsolicited manuscripts and request all manuscripts be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed return envelope. The names of characters used in all MAD fiction and semi-fiction are fictitious. A similarity without satiric purpose to a living person is a coincidence.

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LETTERS DEPT.



THE ZING

If "The Zing" isn't your greatest satire, it's close enough.

Tony Bill Producer "The Sting" Hollywood, Calif.

I saw the movie, "The Sting," but your version was so confusing, I had to read it twice before I put it back on the store rack.

Eugenia King Baton Rouge, La.

A CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOKE?

Recently, I visited MAD Magazine's office to give them a laugh. I dressed up like William M. Gaines, Publisher of MAD, by sruffing a pillow in my shirt and wearing a beard, wig and glasses. I had a lot of fun and may even go back again, in the guise of Alfred E. Neuman. I am the one on the right.

Aaron Fricke Cumberland Hill, RI



Gaines & Fricke-Mammoth and Mite

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGE-MENT AND CIRCULATION (Act of August 12, 1970: Section 3685. Title 39. United States Code) 1. Title of Publication: MAD. 2, Date of Filing: Oct. 1, 1974. 3. Frequency of Issue: Monthly except Feb., May, August, and Nov. 4. Location of Known Office of Publication: 485 MADison Avenue NYC 10022 5, Location of the Headquarters or General Business Offices of the Publishers: 485 MADison Avenue NYC 10022. 6. Names and Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor: Publisher: William M. Gaines-485 MADison Avenue NYC 10022; Editor: Albert B. Feldstein-485 MADison Avenue NYC 10022; Managing Editor: None. 7. Owner (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder

MINGO'S "BIG CON" COVER

Norman Mingo's "The Big Con" cover is a justifiable "insult" added to "infamy"! Paul Nichols New York, N.Y.

The cover of your "Big Con" issue is as much of an American classic in its shameful reference as "Washington Crossing The Delaware" is in its patriotic reference.

Kevin Crisler Patchogue, N.Y.

Let me make this perfectly clear: Norman Mingo is a genius!

Brian Leibowitz

Harrison, N.Y.

The Mingo cover "The Big Con" was only outdone by your "Poor Richard's Almanac," which was only outdone by your spoof "The Zing," which was only outdone by its subtle visual truism of "Scott Joplin—Music; Marvin Hammish—Exploiter," which was only outdone by the biggest "con" of all, your new inflated price! I always thought your magazine was too much; now I know it's too much!

Joel Rosenkrantz

Flushing, N.Y.

MAD didn't raise the price of MAD, inflation did!—Ed.

YOU'VE REACHED APATHY

You know "You Have Reached A State Of Apathy When..." you receive "Modern Funeral Parlors" instead of MAD, and you don't notice any difference! Paul Sundick

Great Neck, N.Y.

"Apathy"... when you go to a wellstocked magazine rack and you pick MAD.

Chris Fleming Rockville, Md.

"Apathy"... when newsdealers still carry MAD after 171 issues.

Mark Siegel Beverly Hills, Calif.

BIBLE RAVE

God'll get you for that "Bible Rave"! Janet James Philippi, W.Va.

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William M. Gaines, Publisher

POOR RICHARD'S ALMANAC

Mr. Silverstone has just dealt the final fatal blow to the wooden stake with his excellent satire, "Poor Richard's Almanac." It was a perfect sequel to "Malice In Wonderland," issue #165.

O. M. Nierstrasz Toronto, Canada

LIGHTER SIDE OF DIETING

Dave Berg's "Lighter Side Of Dieting" was such a side-splitter, it took three inches off my waist!

Thomas Casale Chappaqua, N.Y.

I would suggest that any one planning to diet read Dave Berg's "The Lighter Side Of Dieting," It made me so sick, I couldn't eat for a week.

> Tony Long Crawfordsville, Ind.

THE MAD CRISIS PRIMER

After reading "The MAD Crisis Primer" by Stan Hart and Paul Coker, Jr., I won't laugh any more when the old man across the way comes outside with his gas mask and gloves to walk his cellophane-covered mutt!

Mark Paalman Walnut Creek, Calif.

Regarding Stan Hart's "Crisis Primer,"
I can't wait until the "Paper Crisis." There won't be anything to print MAD on anymore!

Steve Henry Bonita, Calif.

Stan Hart forgot to mention the "Humor Crisis" which was so apparent in his stupid "Crisis Primer"!

Mark Schneider Barrington, Ill.

THE ROOKERS

"The Rookers" was excellent. Once again, Dick De Bartolo and Angelo Torres did some nice "police work"!

David Willis Warwick, RI

Please Address All Correspondence To: MAD, Dept. 173, 485 MADison Avenue New York, New York 10022

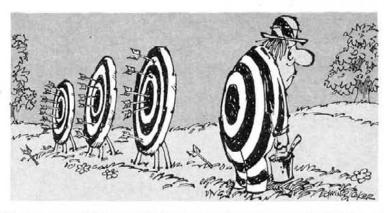
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William M. Gaines, Publisher

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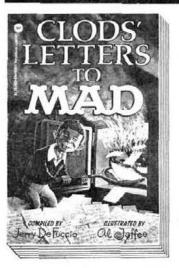
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SPACED OUT!

Yep, the orders for these full-color portraits of Alfred E. Neuman, MAD's "What-Me Worry?" kid, (suitable for framing or training pupples) are spaced out at such long intervals (like a week apart), that we're blowing our minds... trying to figure out how to get rid of them. So help us to get this freak out of our stock room by mailing in your 35¢ for 1, 75¢ for 3, \$1.55 for 9, \$3.15 for 27 or \$6.35 for 81 to: MAD, 485 MADISON AVENUE, New York, N.Y. 10022



YOU CLODS WROTE THIS BOOK!



Mainly, we've collected all the kookie comments, screwy suggestions, asinine advice, ludicrous laments, zany zingers, crackpot criticisms, ridiculous rebukes, queer queries... and other censorable scribblings you've sent over the years!

NOW, YOU CAN SUFFER LIKE WE'VE SUFFERED, WITH THIS COLLECTION OF PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED...

CLODS' LETTERS TO

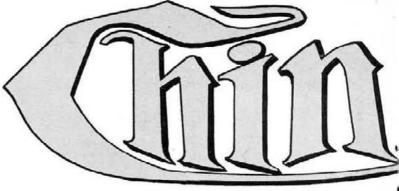
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CHINESE WATER TORTURE DEPT.

Recently, some of the big creative brains in Hollywood decided to revive the oldfashioned "Private Eye Mystery Movie!" At least, that's what the publicity releases about the picture say. Actually, the only old-fashioned things about this picture are the clothes and the cars! The rest is very "today" . . . complicated, long-winded and dull! And the hero? Well, he's a . . .

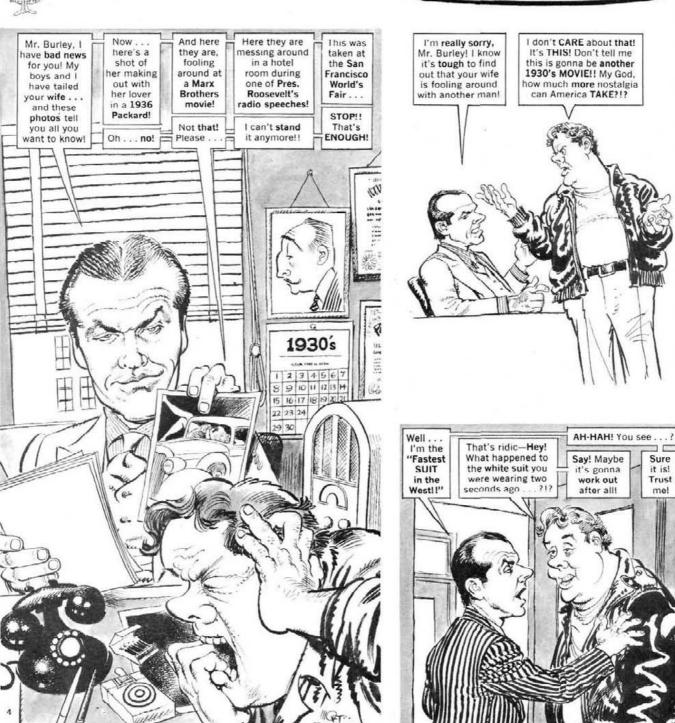


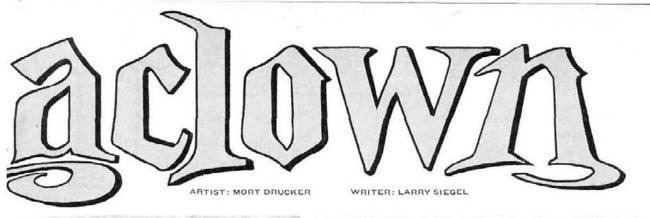
Sure

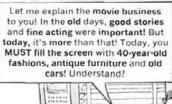
it is!

Trust

me!







Sure! I get it! In other words, today people are paying good money for JUNK!!

Right!

But this film's gonna be different! It's gonna be a real old fashioned "Private Eye Movie!" It takes place in Los Angeles in the late 30's . . . and I'm Joke Giddy, Private Eye!

> Big deal! If you're a Private Eye, what's your gimmick? All them oldfashioned shamuses had shticks!

I know! Humphrey Bogart owned "tough" owned "suave" . . . Brian Donlevy owned "short!" So I needed something NEW! And here it is! My shtick

You've heard of the "Fastest GUN in the West?"







Mr. Giddy, I want you to get the goods on my Husband! He's fooling around with another woman! Perhaps you've heard of him-Horace Mulebray, the Chief Engineer with the Los Angeles Water Dept.?

Wow! A case dealing with the Water Dept. and Reservoirs and Inside Doings in the City Government! What a dynamite plot for a Private Eye movie! William Powell never had anything like it!

No. DICK Powell did! He solved it in a Busby Berkeley Musical! As you can see, Los Angeles is in the midst of severe water crisis! There's nothing we can do! The city is in trouble!

We can't! We're operating on a shoestring! We have no money, no material and no personnel! We can't even build a DAM!

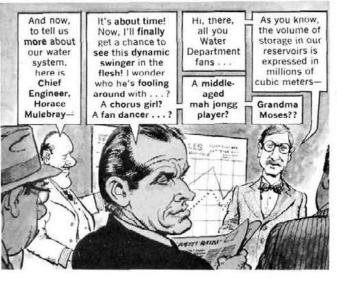
You're exaggerating! How about putting up more reservoirs?!?

Why Our beaver not? is sickl

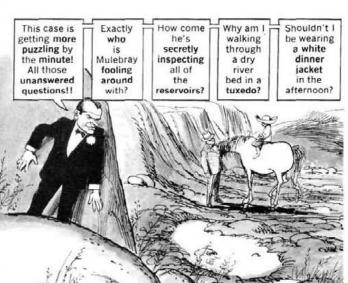
Now, that's trouble!!















If you're the REAL
Mrs. Mulebray, why
did that woman hire
me to prove your
Husband is messing
around like crazy?

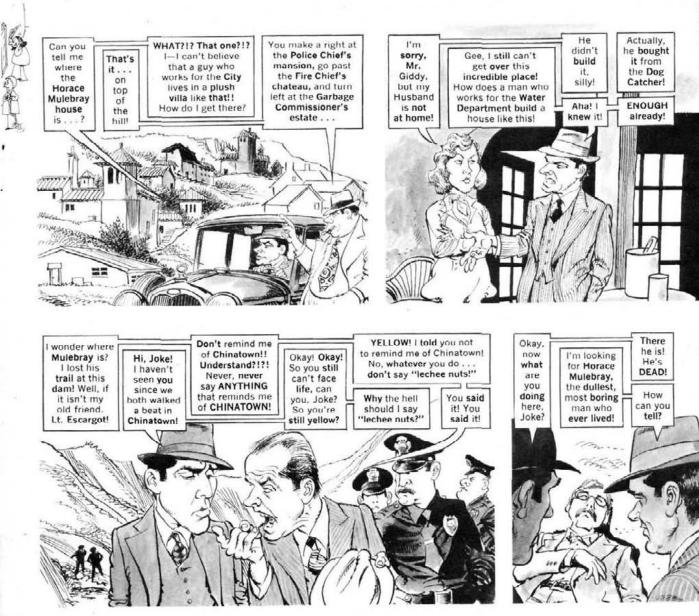
Mr. Giddy . . . my
Husband is faithful!

Are you kidding? He's been spending all his time with this gorgeous young blonde ... in hotel rooms ... in the backs of cars ... all over town! He never leaves her side ... night or day!

I TOLD you he was faithful!

Well, I'm gonna see your Mr. Mulebray myself, and get to the bottom of this!







I wonder how Mulebray could have drowned! Let's see . . . the last time I saw him, he was walking through this reservoir, which has been bonedry for the past five years! Then . . .







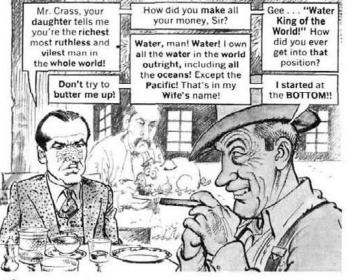


You know what happens to wise









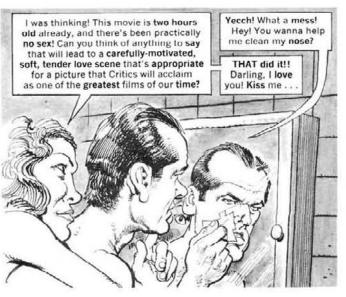
... so your Father has been buying up arid land cheap! Then he plans on irrigating the land and selling it at a huge profit! Your Husband was apparently on to his scheme, so your Father may have killed him! Now, all we have to figure out is: Who was that woman who pretended to be you? Who was the blonde? Why does Chinatown drive me bananas? And what does all that have to do with the poor people in this Old Aged Home...?

Right now, I'm not so sure! I was 23 when you started that last speech!

How old are

you, Ma'am?







that it's painful for you, but tell me about Chinatown? Well, ok once! Y' fall in Lime? We me twelv lost my lo

Well, okay! But just this once! Y'know how it is to fall in love for the first time? Well, it happened to me twelve years ago! And I lost my love in Chinatown! Now . . . don't ever remind me of Chinatown again!!

Poor Darling! Now, while I'm getting dressed, how would you like a Fortune...

Don't say it! DON'T SAY IT! ... MAGAZINE to read! Ha-ha! Had you going for a minute, didn't!? Bet you thought! was going to say. "Fortune COOKIE!"

SAY IT! AAAARRRGH!!



She said that she had to go someplace, and that I shouldn't follow her! But I followed her anyway . . . and look at that! It's the young blonde that old Mulebray was fooling around with! I wonder what the connection is between them? I wonder where all this will lead to? I wonder if anybody cares??







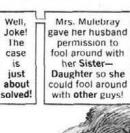


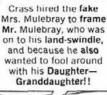


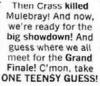






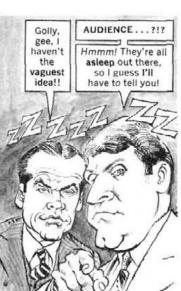




















DON MARTIN DEPT. PART I

ONE SATURDAY MORNING IN A SUPERMARKET















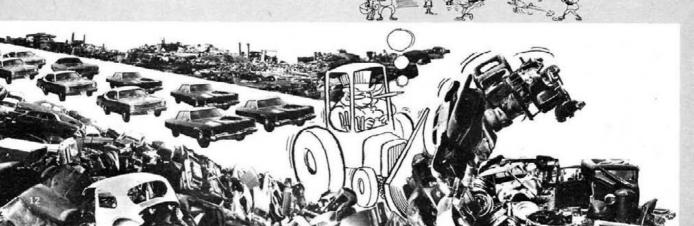


A MAD LOOK AT OUR



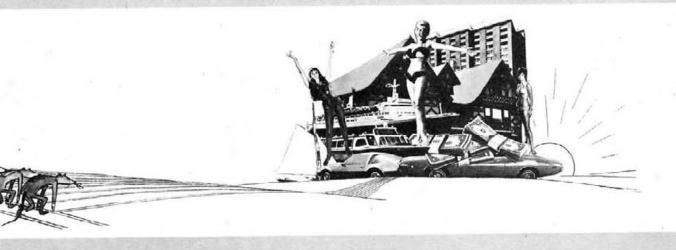


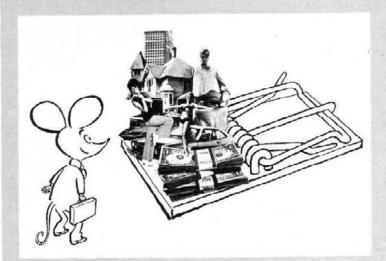


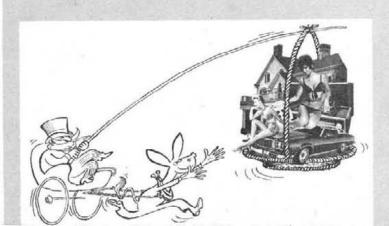


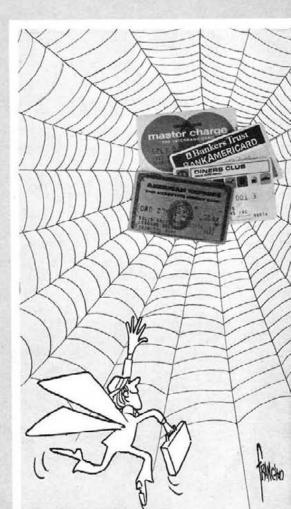
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MEDICAL CONFIDENTIAL

THE DOCTOR'S WAITING ROOM MAGAZINE ARE YOU

EMOTIONALLY PREPARED FOR IMMEDIATE HOSPITALIZATION?

0000

A Grateful Patient Speaks Out: "IT WAS WELL WORTH \$185 TO HAVE MY BOIL LANCEDI"

0000

Why Blue Cross Does Not Cover Our Fee For Filling Blue Cross Forms

0000

INSTALLMENT 19 OF A 47-PART SERIES:

"Those Painful Ailments You Can't Expect Medical Science To Cure"

If You Have To "GO" ... Don'tl The Nurse May Be Asking You For A Specimen!



REPAIR ROUNDU

THE AUTO MECHANIC'S WAITING ROOM COMPANION

WHY COSTS HAVE RISEN SHARPLY SINCE YOU GOT THAT REPAIR ESTIMATE YESTERDAY MORNING

Why 4-Cylinder Cars Often Require New Spark Plugs

EVER ARGUE WITH YOUR MECHANIC! Anybody Who Can Lift An Engine Block Can Fracture Your Pelvis!

The Victim Of A Major Mechanical Breakdown Tells All: "I NEGLECTED TO HAVE MY GRIMMISH REPLACED EVERY 10,000 MILES!"

Why An Overhauled Car You Pick Up Today Can Develop Serious New Trouble On The Way ne From The Garage

> IGHT COST YOU YOUR LIFE!



SETTING UP FOR THE BILL DEPT.

↑ NYONE who has ever been trapped in an office $oldsymbol{\Lambda}$ waiting room quickly realizes that there are two basic things wrong with the magazines piled there: they are inevitably old, and they are incredibly dull. Strangely, the doctors, businessmen and other people who maintain those waiting rooms never seem to realize that, from their own standpoint, too, the magazines actually have two basic things wrong with them: they don't do a thing to increase business, and they don't even

SPECIALIZED FOR OFFICE W

EYES RIGHT

HOW CONTACT LENSES CAN SPARE YOU FROM BEING CALLED "FOUR EYES" . . .

A Dramatic First Person Account: "UNBREAKABLE \$75 LENSES SAVED MY LIFE IN THE ALASKA EARTHQUAKE!"

. . . Your Alternative To The Rising Cost Of Glasses: A \$2,000.00 GUIDE DOG

THE OLD RELIABLE



CHART HAS BEEN CHANGED SO DON'T TRY TO GUESS!

Another Miraculous 20-20 Vision Story: "NOW I CAN READ ALL SIX PAGES OF MY ITEMIZED OPTOMETRY BILL CLEARLY!"

A DELIGHTED WIDOW TELLS HER OPTOMETRY STORY: "I Found Independence By Being Able To Look Up My Own Phone Numbers!"



OCCASIONAL BLURRED VISION MAY MEAN YOU NEED EXPENSIVE BIFOCALS



prepare the waiting room inmates psychologically for their coming appointments. In short, there's nothing in an old copy of "Good Housekeeping" or "Sports Illustrated" that enables a professional person to go "one up" on his patient or customer before the two ever meet. Yes, MAD thinks that a golden opportunity is being missed. The captive audience is there, ready to be frightened or even fleeced, and what the situation clearly calls for is a whole brand new, cleverly angled line of . . .

MAGAZINES AITING ROOMS

WRITER: TOM KOCH

Body English Cold Vinter Vinter 1975

The Funeral Home Browser

FUN THINGS TO READ WHILE WAITING FOR YOUR GRIEF COUNSELOR

SUPPOSE YOU DO RECRUIT AMATEUR PALL BEARERS— AND THEY DROP THE BOX?

Insisting On Your Own Minister Could Result In A Bush League Eulogy

WHO SAYS THE DEAR DEPARTED CAN'T ENJOY \$50 WORTH OF ORGAN MUSIC?

A Young Couple's Tale
Of Devotion:
"WE SOLD OUR HOME
AND BOUGHT A
MAUSOELUM SO THAT
GRANDPA COULD HAVE
HIS OWN ROOM!"

Why Risk Letting Mourning Relatives Drive With Tears In Their Eyes When They Can Drive Safely In Chauffeured Limousines?

AN IOWA WIDOW SHARES HER COMFORTING MEMORIES: "Claude's Funeral Was The Nicest Thing That

Ever Happened To Him!"



THE MONTH'S BEST IN MORTUARY HUMOR Turn To Page 84

Making Waves Kinky Reading For The Beauty Shop Patron Dry, Bleached

BLONDES PROBABLY
HAVE MORE FUN,
AND IT'S CERTAINLY
WORTH \$25 TO FIND OUT
* * * *

A PATRON WHO ORDERED THE CHEAPEST DYE JOB REPORTS: "Now Everybody Mistakes Me For A Movie Star . . . Yul Brynner!"

SHOULD YOU GET EXPENSIVE PEDICURES IN WINTER WHEN YOU ONLY WEAR HIGH BOOTS?

The Story Of One Woman's Embarrassment When She Slipped On The Ice, Turned Her Ankle, And They Removed Her Golashes In Public

* * *
THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT
FOR YOUR MALE HAIRDRESSER:
Gold Lame Socks
* * *

"Making Waves" Survey Report:
"PROFESSIONAL MANICURES;
WHY THEY TURN MEN ON!"

How Trading Mean Gossip With Your Beautician Releases Tension And Makes You Look Lovelier



This Month's Exciting Cosmetic Tip: HOW YOUR BEAUTY SHOP'S SPECIAL CONDITIONING TREATMENT SHRINKS YOUR SKIN TO FIT YOUR FACE

IMPACTED WISDOM

FACTUAL FEATURES OF VITAL INTEREST TO DENTAL PATIENTS

HOW BAD BREATH
CAN ANGER THE
DENTIST INTO
DRILLING
UNMERCIFULLY!

How Gumming Mushy Foods For The Rest Of Your Life Can Be Fun

WISE ADVICE FROM AN ORTHODONTIST: "Put Your Money Where Your Kid's Mouth Is!"

YOUR BEST HEDGE AGAINST RUNAWAY INFLATION: A Mouthful Of Gold Inlays

Why A Tropical Cruise Helps To Keep Your Dentist's Hands From Shaking

> SWALLOWING LITTLE BITS OF SILVER FILLINGS CAN'T KILL YOU!

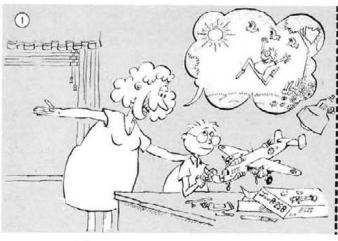


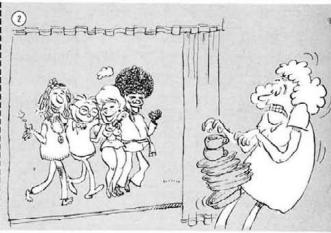
SPECIAL REPORT

"There's No Truth To The Rumor That They Turn Up The Muzak To Drown Out The Sound Of Screaming!" KIT STUFF DEPT.

A MAD LOOK AT...

MODEL-BUI











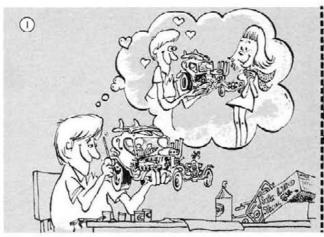




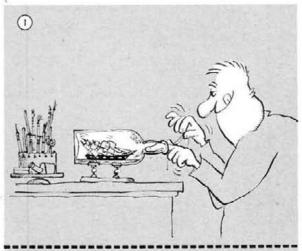
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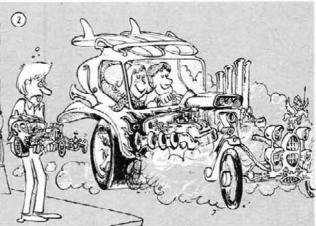




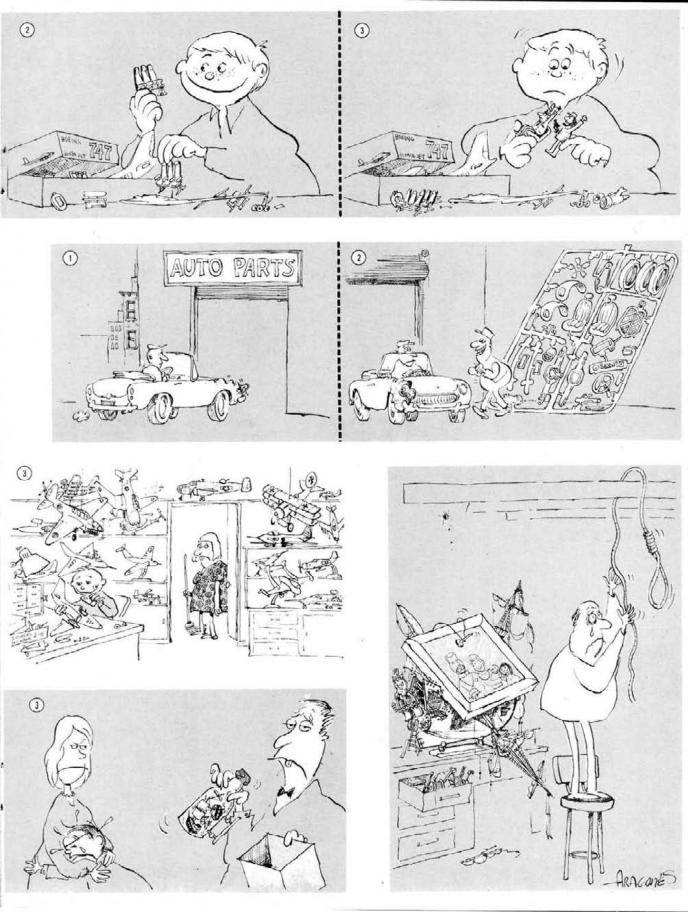






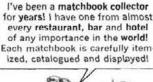






Have you got a match?

Are you kidding? Why, I've got at least a hundred thousand of them!



for years! I have one from almost Each matchbook is carefully item-



And you ask if I've got a match! Hah!



So . . . ?!? Can I have one?



BERG'S-EYE VIEW DEPT.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF...

COL

I'm hedging against rising inflation and the devaluation of the dollar by putting my money into **GOLD COINS!**

I'm beating inflation and dollar devaluation by putting my money into RARE STAMPS!

As for ME, I'm putting my money into BANKS! Are you crazy? All you get in banks is low interest which doesn't even keep up with inflation?!

And what about the risk of bank failures . . . and further devaluations of the dollar?







Oh . . . I see you're collecting pennies! Tell me, what makes something into a "collectable"?



Anything that's rare . . . or that isn't made any more . . . or that there's a shortage of becomes a valuable collectable!



That's right! I hear that some banks are giving a **DOLLAR TWENTY-FIVE for a** dollar's worth of pennies! So there really must be a terrible shortage of them!





LECTING

ARTIST & WRITER: DAVE BERG

Why the heck don't you throw out all this junk?!

I'm AFRAID to!! With this current "nostalgia" craze, it's really hard to figure out what's JUNK . . . and what's VALUABLE!!

Today, people are paying good money for Big Little Books and Shirley Temple **Dolls and Mickey Mouse** Watches and Little Orphan Annie Shake-Up Mugs!!



Now that you mention it, looking at this stuff DOES bring back a flood of nostalgic memories!



Oh, yeah?!? Well, what's so NICE about memories of "THE GREAT DEPRESSION"... and "WORLD WAR II"?!?















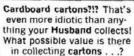


This is my Husband's idiotic

And this is my Husband's idiotic Old Pocket Knife collection! And this is my Husband's idiotic Old Tin Toy collection . . .



And this is MY collection . . .!

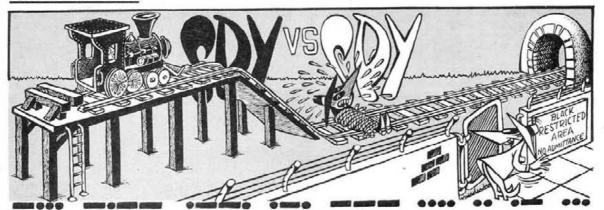


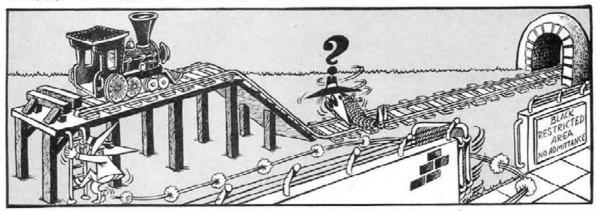


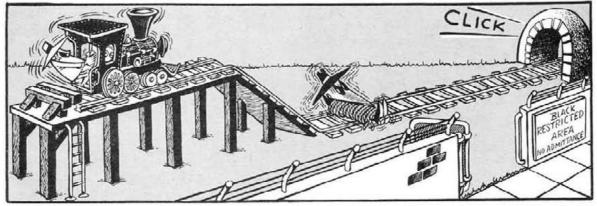
To throw out all my Husband's idiotic collections in!!

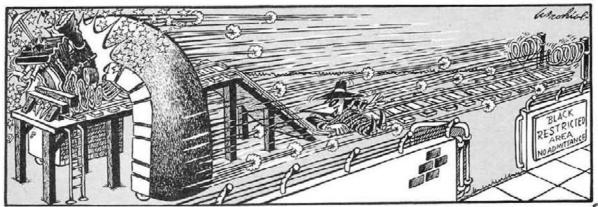












REIGNING CATS AND DOGS DEPT.

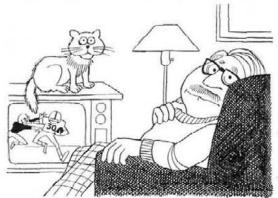
YOU KNOW YOU'RE REAL

YOU KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A PET OWNER WHEN...



...you're constantly taking your dog to the Veterinarian for a check-up...and you haven't seen your own Doctor in years.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A PET OWNER WHEN...



... you have your Tomcat "fixed" ... and now all he does is sit around and stare at you.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A PET OWNER WHEN.

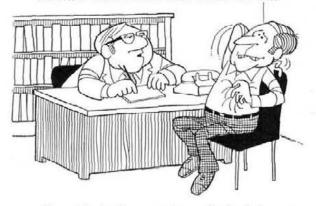


... you force yourself to venture out during a howling blizzard because you discover you're out of cat food ...



... and then she refuses to eat!

YOU KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A PET OWNER WHEN ...



... a Dermatologist charges you twenty-five bucks to come up with a diagnosis of your skin problem . . . mainly, fleas.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A PET OWNER WHEN ...



... you decide that the stuff you brought home in the Doggie-Bag is too good to give to a dog.

LYAPET OWNER WHEN...

YOU KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A PET OWNER WHEN



. . . you go on a vacation, and you have to stay in third-rate motels because they're the only ones who will accept your dog.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A PET OWNER WHEN...

...you buy a dog because you're lonely ...and he sleeps for twenty hours a day.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A PET OWNER WHEN...



. . . you get a "Poop-Scoop" for Christmas.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A PET OWNER WHEN ...



... you're asked to say a few words at a gerbil's funeral.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A PET OWNER WHEN...



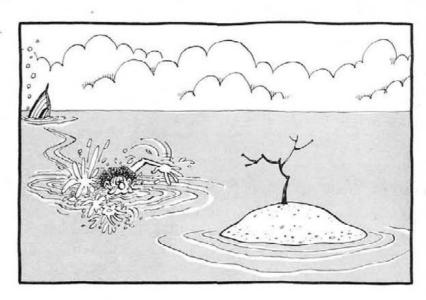
... you have to explain to friends that you weren't in a horrible accident, but merely tried to give your cat a bath.

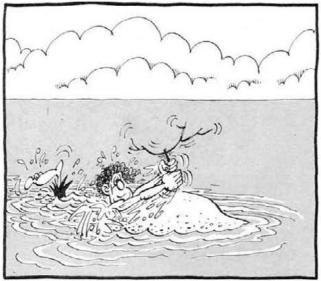
YOU KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A PET OWNER WHEN...

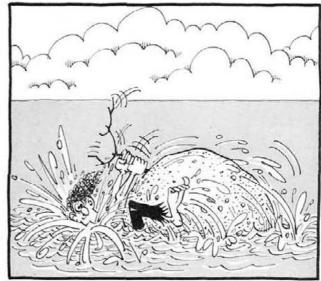


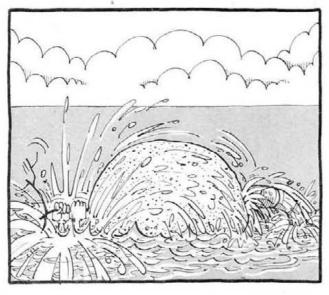
. . . your aged Bulldog spoils your big love scene by suddenly making the air unbreathable.

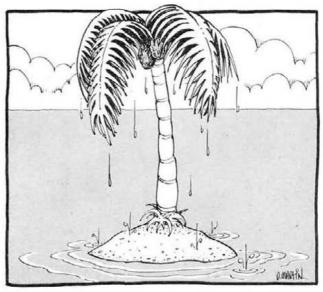
ONE HOT SUNNY AFTERNOON IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OCEAN











NUMBERS RACKET DEPT.

Public Opinion Polls and Surveys are playing an increasingly important role in America today. If someone decides to run for President, or introduces a new toilet bowl cleaner, the first thing he does is have a Poll taken to see what his chances are of being elected . . . or having his product dumped into the nation's Johns. Are these polls necessary, and do they give a true cross section of public opinion? Well, you sure won't find out the answers to these questions by reading this article! But join us anyway as we interview

MAD'S POLL-TAKER OF THE YEAR

ARTIST: PAUL COKER, JR.

WRITE: LOU SILVERSTONE



















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Hello! I'm taking

a TV Survey! Do

you watch the "NBA

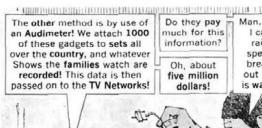
Well, don't waste

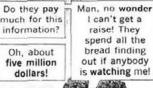
the phone call!



And THIS

is why shows like "Julia" and "Barefoot





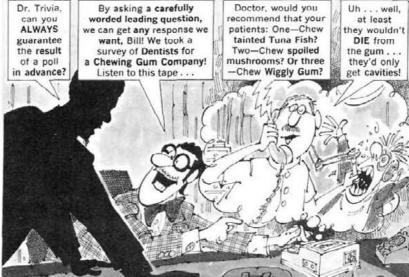












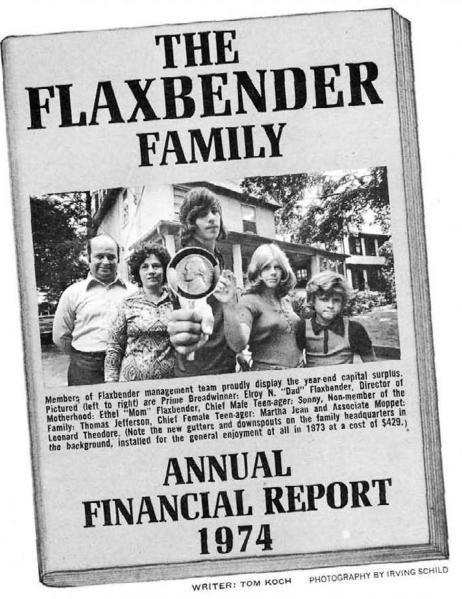




HOME ECONOMICS DEPT.

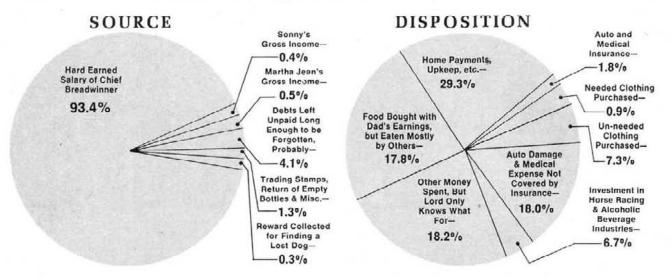
The average American Family has one thing in common with the average American Corporation: both bicker constantly about money because neither seems capable of showing a satisfactory profit despite ever increasing income. The Chairman of the Board can't really explain what happened to this year's extra billion dollars any more than the Head of the House can figure out where this year's extra thousand went. But Corporation Executives do have a decided edge when it comes to silencing money squabbles. They cover up their extravagant mistakes with vague references to "non-recurring costs" and optimistic predictions for a brighter tomorrow. MAD sees no reason why Families shouldn't utilize the same sneaky device. Just think how the shouting would be stifled if Moms, Dads and kids were given yearly opportunities to write up their dreams for a better future as each of them busily blames the present financial mess on somebody else in....

ANNUAL REPORTS TO FAMILY MEMBERS

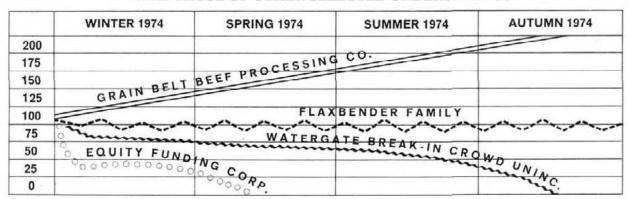


1974 Financial Highlights At A Glance

Source And Disposition Of Family Revenue

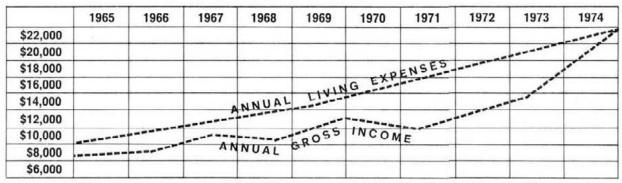


COMPARISON OF 1974 FLAXBENDER REVENUES WITH THOSE OF OTHER SELECTED UNDERTAKINGS



Encouraging graph (above) shows that last year Flaxbenders performed better financially than two out of three comparable organizations picked entirely at random for an intensive study.

LONG TERM COMPARISON OF ANNUAL INCOME & OUTLAY FIGURES



A tremendous upsurge in Dad's earnings from overtime and moonlighting coupled with leadership decision to misplace almost \$700 in unpaid bills, resulted in an unprecedented 1973 prosperity that created the wonderful illusion we finally broke even.

Annual Message From Dad

As you already have been notified verbally, the Flaxbender "team" finished fiscal 1974 with results that were not satisfactory to your leadership. Such unprofitable undertakings as Martha Jean's dental work, Sonny's totaling of the Buick, and Mom's idiotic purchase of a muskrat coat combined to wipe out an anticipated surplus, despite record gross revenues of \$21,658 contributed by Yours Truly.

In topping the magic "twenty grand" figure for the first time in history, Dad again operated at 100% of his maximum work capacity throughout the calendar year, and was the financial stand-out in an otherwise lack-luster family effort. By giving up golf to put in more Saturday overtime at the plant, and devoting most free week-nights to moonlighting in the aluminum awning sales field, the Head of the House clearly risked a heart attack in order to make up deficits reported by all subsidiary Flaxbenders. Additionally, it should be noted that Dad's Poker Night losings were pared to a few lousy bucks in the year just ended.

Chief disappointments among the new financial ventures undertaken by junior members of the team were Sonny's Lawn Mowing Service, which grossed only \$32.75 after a \$149.00 outlay for a power mower, and Martha Jean's baby sitting, which fell an incredible \$216 short of covering the cost of new clothes needed to do the work properly. It is to be hoped that both endeavors can turn the corner profitwise in 75. Or else!

Over all, the year ahead appears to hold some promise for achieving our first measurable surplus since we started having children. The recent death of the dog happily relieves us of a burdensome Purina Chow bill, and also enables us to skip paying the veterinarian for past services. On another front, the news that Ethel's brother lost his mind and was committed leads management to the cheery conclusion that he probably forgot about the \$500 we owe him. Therefore, that debt is now being written off as paid, in compliance with the family's normal accounting procedures.

In the final analysis, however, hopes for putting the Flaxbenders into the black for '75 depend chiefly upon subsidiary family members and their desire to cut costs in all operating areas. To achieve that motivation, all that any of us need do is ask ourselves one simple budgetary question: How badly do we really want that A-1 Bench Power Saw that old Dave Gleckny down at the plant is willing to let me have for only \$150?

Respectfully submitted, Elroy N. Flaxbender, Devoted Husband & Father



CHIEF FAMILY BREADWINNER Elroy N. Flaxbender poses for formal portrait in his newest suit, a \$39.95 Robert Hall clearance special purchased in 1962. During fiscal 1974, Dad's gross outlay for clothing and booze amounted to less than \$1,000.



CUTTING FISCAL DEFICIT. Dad is shown returning home from a rough day of working overtime in order to pay for thoughtless extravagances of lamily subsidiaries. (Note baggy trouser knees incurred to save sixty cents for professional pressing.)

GOLDEN INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY IS MISSED. At recent Auto Show, Dad spotted blue chip growth potential in this underpriced \$4,600 camper. Purchase was not made due to opposition by Motherhood Division manager. The very same vehicle is now selling at \$4,950, its all time market high.



REPORTS FROM SUB



RESISTING HIGH BEAUTICIANS' CHARGES, Mom here displays results of cheap home permanent that saved family \$15, and also required her to wear a wool ski cap in public all through months of July and August.

The Homemaking & Motherhood Branch Recaps 1974

As we close out another year, it remains a mystery to me how a person is supposed to feed and clothe a family of five on the miserable household allowance I get. Lord knows I do the best I can. But it simply gets to the point where, I mean, good grief!

Even that little fat fellow with glasses hired by the president to go on Walter Cronkite and tell us how prosperous we are has finally admitted that prices are outrageous. As if a person wouldn't already know when all you have to do is walk into the market with a twenty-dollar bill to find out how far it goes. Noplace! That's how far it goes!

And yet, there's our family leader, Mr. Big Mouth Zipwallet, sitting across the dinner table yammering about not being able to stomach a main dish of cauliflower au gratin two nights in a row. In addition to which, that's after I've slaved away sprinkling parsley over the top to make it look nice. And also after I've gone without the clothes any woman needs to put on her back, which is another story altogether.

In closing, may I say that doing the marketing in an old VW with hent fenders that won't start half the time is no picnic for a sensitive person either. If the Homemaking and Motherhood Dept. were provided with even half-way decent transportation, there is no doubt that a large number of ingenious cost-cutting operations could be put into effect in fiscal 1975. Especially if it should happen to be a lavender Mustang.

(Mrs.) Ethel Flaxbender Chief Drudge

A Word From Sonny On Fiscal '74

Writing as a scholar whose good marks in high school already have qualified me for admission to a top rated college, I shall begin my report by paraphrasing a deep thought of Karl Marx written in a book I glanced through recently: "The desire of capitalists to conserve cash is the big thing that will make their system collapse from inner rottenness."

Since Karl Marx was a known Communist with a beard and long hair of the type Dad hates, I have assumed the patriotic task of putting all but \$8.45 of my money back into circulation in the year just ended. I feel sure Dad would have wanted it that way, if he could only understand that I am just striving to help him fight off the Red Menace.

However, we now enter 1975 with the family again falling into the trap of Kremlin schemers by preparing to enroll me at tuition-free Inner City Junior College instead of dipping into capitalist savings to send me to Fraternity State. Let all God fearing Flaxbenders devoutly pray that this reactionary plan may yet be changed, especially since a couple of coeds at Fraternity State are already expecting me there.

On other matters of significance for fiscal 1974, I point with pride to my vastly enlarged record collection, my guitar amplifier purchase, and my proven talent for faking affluence on less than \$20 a week. These accomplishments have done much to prevent the world from learning that my father's financial policies are hastening the day of the Marxist revolution in

With deepest alarm, Bertram (Sonny) Flaxbender Eldest Son & Logical Heir



ENTERPRISING JOB SEEKER. Sonny frequently put in long hours poring over Help Wanted column in desperate search for work. Unfortunately, no ads ever appeared for film critics, Geeks or apprentice bongo drummers.

SIDIARY DIVISIONS

This Year's Comment From Martha Jean

As the family spokesperson for exploited young womanhood everywhere, I tragically report that I sacrified all my chances for future happiness in 1974 in order to save Daddy a few paltry dollars which he could well afford. This disaster was achieved by: (1) Not going to Daytona Beach with the crowd for spring vacation; (2) Letting another whole winter pass without even learning how to ski, and (3) Simply staying home while Wanda Warthberger went up to the lake the very same week that Roger Newby was there

Although locking myself in my room to cry my eyes out probably pleased Daddy because it didn't cost him any money, this department thinks it's short sighted to raise a charming daughter who will now have to spend her entire life as an old maid librarian or an old maid nun. It was this very same lack of vision by parents that caused them to start World War II when they were my age.

Despite having no future to look forward to, this division continued to contribute greatly to family income in 1974 by baby sitting on at least four occasions, knitting almost half a sweater to save on the clothes budget and, as previously indicated, not having any dates with Roger Newby which might have entailed going Dutch.

In the year ahead, I plan to write either a novel or a sonnet based on my tragic life, which I will then sell for a lot of money to make Mom and Daddy aware of the fact that I exist as a person.

Very courageously yours, Martha Jean Flaxbender Chief Unappreciated Individual



MARTHA JEAN PUTS UP BRAYE FRONT. Pictured here reading a fan magazine bought with her own money, the Flaxbenders' lovely daughter consoles herself with the knowledge that many gorgeous male recording stars also came from underprivileged homes and backgrounds.

Leonard Theodore Speaks Out Financially



ENTERPRISING LEONARD THEODORE is shown here operating summer vacation lemonade stand which contributed almost 35¢ to family income, not counting cost of 48 lemons, 2 lb, sugar and 5 broken glasses.

I didn't spend hardly anything on anything last year, excepting for things which were very important. Like the five-dollars which all the kids in Miss Runk's home room had to bring for Xmas pageant costumes, and which Miss Runk said was very important because without the five dollars, we couldn't show how much we love the Baby Jesus. Daddy thought this was important, too, because when I told him I needed five-dollars, the first thing he said was, "Sweet Baby Jesus!"

Also, five-dollars isn't hardly anything compared to what Stanley Zimmerman's father plans to spend. He is only a City Councilman, which probably doesn't pay much, but he came to home room one day and told us how he wants to spend a couple of million dollars on a new playground for our school. That is much more than five-dollars, although Stanley Zimmerman says his father also owns a company that builds playgrounds, so he will probably get one wholesale.

Except for my Baby Jesus money, I didn't spend hardly anything on anything. Only just for popsicles which now cost five-cents more but are smaller, even though Daddy doesn't give me any more money to buy them than he did when they cost five-cents less and were bigger.

Which is mainly why my main financial plan for 1975 is that I plan to ask for a dollar a week allowance instead of fifty-cents, and also plan to hold my breath until my face turns black and I die if I don't get it.

Love, Leonard Theodore Flaxbender Cub Scout & Grade 3 Eraser Monitor

Statement Of 1974 Income & Expenses

INCOME:	
Gross earnings by Dad (Before	
extraordinary losses)\$	21,658.00
Extraordinary losses (See	
Footnote 1)	125.00
Net earnings by Dad after extraordinary losses\$	21,533.00
otal receipts, Sonny's Lawn Mowing Service	32.78
otal receipts, Martha Jean's baby sitting	46.00
Contents of ladies' purse found by Leonard Theodore.	
(See Footnote 2)	14.00
stimated gross value of trading	
stamps saved by Ethel	18.00
ess cost of extra gas needed to shop	
only at stores that give stamps	16.90
Net value of trading stamps saved by Ethel in 1974	1.10
Cash received for 1973 Christmas gifts from Grandma and	
Grandpa returned to store in early 1974	52.50
TOTAL INCOME\$	21,679.3
EXPENSES:	
food and beverages (See Footnote 3)\$	3,148.15
Payments on house	1,200.00
Nortgage interest payments on house	2,986.18
nsurance on house	480.0
Repair work on house	644.00
Jpkeep on house	538.2
Cost of unsuccessful ad to try to sell house	13.80
	2.177.30
Children's medical care, clothing and other extravagances	1,485.00
	149.00
New billiard table for game room and other necessities	
Children's medical care, clothing and other extravagances New billiard table for game room and other necessities Overhead expenses, Sonny's Lawn Mowing Service Overhead expenses, Martha Jean's baby sitting	262.00
New billiard table for game room and other necessities	
New billiard table for game room and other necessities	587.95
New billiard table for game room and other necessities	587.98 800.00
New billiard table for game room and other necessities Diverhead expenses, Sonny's Lawn Mowing Service Diverhead expenses, Martha Jean's baby sitting Cleaning and laundry (See Footnote 4) Dutrageously priced muskrat coat purchased by Ethel Razor blades, bridge tolls & misc	587.98 800.00
New billiard table for game room and other necessities Overhead expenses, Sonny's Lawn Mowing Service Overhead expenses, Martha Jean's baby sitting Cleaning and laundry (See Footnote 4) Outrageously priced muskrat coat purchased by Ethel Razor blades, bridge tolls & misc. (See Footnote 5)	587.98 800.00
New billiard table for game room and other necessities Diverhead expenses, Sonny's Lawn Mowing Service Diverhead expenses, Martha Jean's baby sitting Cleaning and laundry (See Footnote 4) Dutrageously priced muskrat coat purchased by Ethel Razor blades, bridge tolls & misc. (See Footnote 5) Cost of having this Annual Report printed and	587.98 800.00 2,116.00
New billiard table for game room and other necessities Overhead expenses, Sonny's Lawn Mowing Service Overhead expenses, Martha Jean's baby sitting Cleaning and laundry (See Footnote 4) Outrageously priced muskrat coat purchased by Ethel Razor blades, bridge tolls & misc. (See Footnote 5) Cost of having this Annual Report printed and distributed in order to get a little peace and quiet	262.00 587.95 800.00 2,116.00 350.00
New billiard table for game room and other necessities Overhead expenses, Sonny's Lawn Mowing Service Overhead expenses, Martha Jean's baby sitting Cleaning and laundry (See Footnote 4) Outrageously priced muskrat coat purchased by Ethel Razor blades, bridge tolls & misc. (See Footnote 5) Cost of having this Annual Report printed and distributed in order to get a little peace and quiet TOTAL EXPENSE BEFORE TAXES	587.95 800.00 2,116.00 350.00 16,937.63
New billiard table for game room and other necessities Overhead expenses, Sonny's Lawn Mowing Service Overhead expenses, Martha Jean's baby sitting Cleaning and laundry (See Footnote 4) Outrageously priced muskrat coat purchased by Ethel Razor blades, bridge tolls & misc. (See Footnote 5) Cost of having this Annual Report printed and distributed in order to get a little peace and quiet	587.95 800.00 2,116.00 350.00 16,937.63 4,741.67

FOOTNOTES TO STATEMENT:

- Extraordinary losses include very extraordinary loss of Dad's three aces to Ernie Glismer's full house on Feb. 7 costing family \$25, and extremely extraordinary loss of \$100 investment when Sure Thing Baby stumbled and fell out of the starting gate in the fourth at Belmont on May 18.
- Does not include \$100 fine levied after Judge ruled that Leonard Theodore found ladies' purse before lady let go of it.
- 3. Beverage figure includes money squandered on cola drinks
- by kids, but excludes Dad's investment in vintage gin as a hedge against inflation.
- Cleaning and laundry total includes \$73 for cleaning yard and laundering windows after Sonny retired from household chores to devote full time to making out.
- Miscellaneous expense includes Dad's \$1,200 Las Vegas vacation to recover from shock of Ethel's \$200 muskrat coat purchase.

Consolidated Family Balance Sheet

Cash in bank\$	638.1
Cash in pockets and old coffee can	51.3
Cash under sofa cushions	0.3
House at current market value	19,500.0
Household furnishings & appliances at present	
re-sale value	1,624.0
1966 Buick automobile	775.00
Martha Jean's prospects for marrying a millionaire.	
(Computed on basis of million-to-one odds against it)	1.00
Potential earnings by Dad before he goes on Social	
Security. (21 years @ \$20,000 per year)	420,000.00
Postage stamps on hand	
	442,590.4
TOTAL LIABILITIES AS OF DEC. 31, 1974	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AS OF DEC. 31, 1974 Theft of cash by Martha Jean's boy friend	
Theft of cash by Martha Jean's boy friend	\$ 16.3
Theft of cash by Martha Jean's boy friend from old coffee can and under sofa cushions	
Theft of cash by Martha Jean's boy friend from old coffee can and under sofa cushions	17,210.0
Theft of cash by Martha Jean's boy friend from old coffee can and under sofa cushions Unpaid balance on house Unpaid balance on household furnishings & appliances. (Including interest and carrying charges) Depreciation on family-owned 1966 Buick incurred during Sonny's smash-up	17,210.0 2,918.7
Theft of cash by Martha Jean's boy friend from old coffee can and under sofa cushions Unpaid balance on house Unpaid balance on household furnishings & appliances. (Including interest and carrying charges) Depreciation on family-owned 1966 Buick incurred during Sonny's smash-up Depreciation on non-family-owned 1973 Pontiac, 1971 Yamaha and 1972 Dodge police car incurred during Sonny's smash-up	17,210.0 2,918.7 750.0
from old coffee can and under sofa cushions Unpaid balance on house Unpaid balance on household furnishings & appliances. (Including interest and carrying charges) Depreciation on family-owned 1966 Buick incurred during Sonny's smash-up Depreciation on non-family-owned 1973 Pontiac, 1971 Yamaha and 1972 Dodge police car incurred during Sonny's smash-up Potential cost of supporting Sonny until he goes on	17,210.0 2,918.7 750.0 7,225.0
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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

Having glanced over all these figures thrown at me by the Flaxbenders (a Delaware family), I can positively state that I guess they probably may be okay.

I mean this stuff is nothing like the examples printed in our text for Bookkeeping II where all the figures come out right at the end and like that. But as Mr. Flaxbender explained to me, it's easy to get numbers to come out right when you're just making them all up to put in a textbook, and don't have to pay any attention to how things would have come out if they had actually happened to real people.

That seems to make sense. Besides, these are all Mr. Flaxbender's figures, and if he isn't worried about getting them to come out right, I don't see why I should get upset.

In addition, he told me that everything in here conforms with accounting procedures that are normal for him, so I guess that means the whole thing probably may be okay.

Bryce Watermouse Fairly Independent Box Boy & Very Independent Undergraduate Accountant

FLAXBENDER A NAME TO BE A LOT MORE RESPECTED IN THE FUTURE



Frequent vow by Ethel's doddering, infirm parents that "Someday this will all be yours!" prompts management to envision a solvent, worry-free fiscal status by 1977.



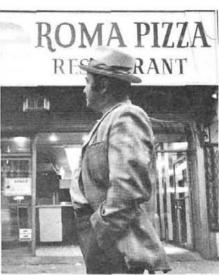
Leonard Theodore, fortunately unaware that Presidential wage guidelines don't apply to his allowance, is warned that seeking an increase will prompt Ford to come get him. This lie will save the family about \$3.00 per year.

Despite past difficulties in bringing capital outlay into phase with net receipts, your leadership remains confident that brighter long range prospects can eventually result in acquisitions that will be the envy of the neighbors. This projected status turn-around could begin as early as the fiscal third quarter of 1975, especially if Sonny and Martha Jean get off their duffs and land summer jobs once school lets out.

Looking further into the future, a management study of actuarial tables reveals that Ethel's parents are due to wheeze their last gasp sometime between late 1976 and early 1977. The resulting juicy inheritance will go far toward putting the family on Easy Street. Plans for the long awaited flake-out already have been made, and call for the Flaxbenders' prompt entry into such diverse activities as yachting, summer cottage acquisition, and possibly even maid hireage. This forthcoming show of affluence obviously will raise the stock of the entire family in the eyes of such neighbors as those loud mouthed Flanagans down on the corner, who are forever bragging about their fat, sissy kid attending Dartmouth.

Holding even greater future promise is Dad's brilliant plan for quitting his job to buy a Pizza Paradise franchise. With Ethel manning the oven to cut overhead expense, the sale of as few as 3,000 pepperoni and mushroom specials each week could produce wealth undreamed of, even by those loud mouthed Flanagans down

To summarize, your trusted leader feels strongly that past family performance should be ignored in assessing future potential. This will be especially true if our rich relatives in Omaha come through with a requested loan to tide us over until Ethel's parents finally conk out. Such brilliantly conceived financial transactions have made Flaxbender a name to be reckoned with in the neighborhood before, and can do so again.



Dad admires Pizza Paradise outlet similar to the one he soon hopes to open and reap fabulous profits. New franchises are still available for only \$10,000, excluding minor costs of building, equipment, supplies and labor.



Ethel's contribution to coming affluence will be a color TV set, due when she saves another 2161/2 books of trading stamps. At present rate of collecting, the family can look forward to watching the 1989 World Series in living color.

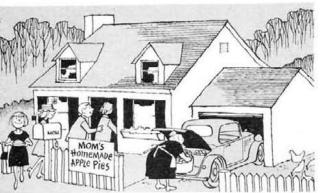


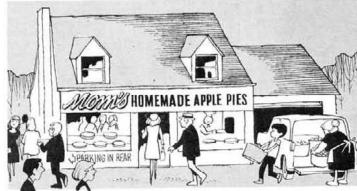
Hopeful sign for the future is Sonny's admiration (shown here) for Family Doctor W. Prit-chard's new Rolls Royce. Sonny has learned that by working his way through Med School he too could charge high fees and buy a Rolls.

A MODERN BUSINESS SUCCESS STORY

ARTIST: BOB CLARKE

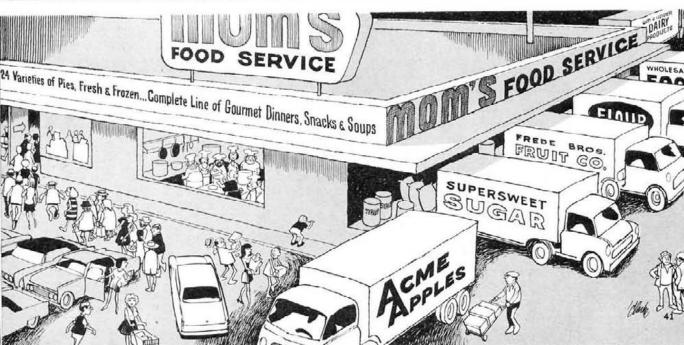
WRITER: DICK DE BARTOLO

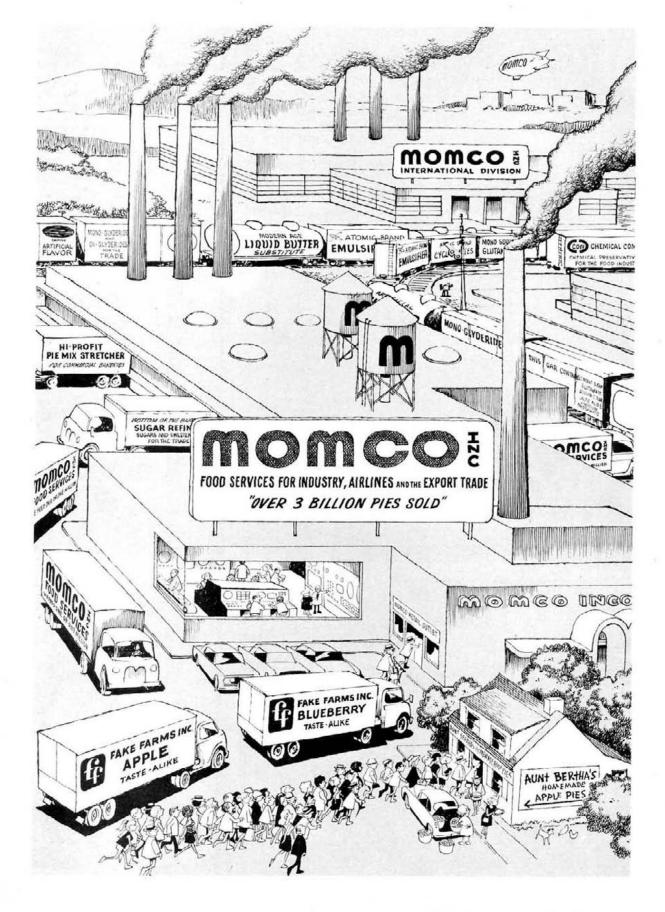












PUTTING ON THE "TELLY" DEPT.

One of the silliest trends on TV the past few seasons has been "The Ethnic Detective Show." We've had Banaceck, Kodiak, Kolchak, Nakia...and one guy who's become the top-rated TV Cop of them all. Yes, we're talking about that charismic, burly Greek with the cute mannerisms and the gleaming skull. So, lower the "brightness" in your room, and get ready for MAD's version of . . .



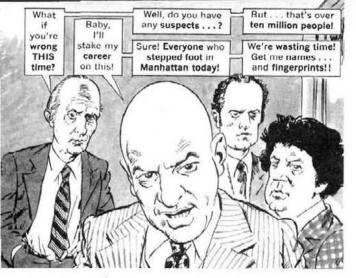






















You punk! You creep!

PRINCES OF BURNESSEE

I know! I just

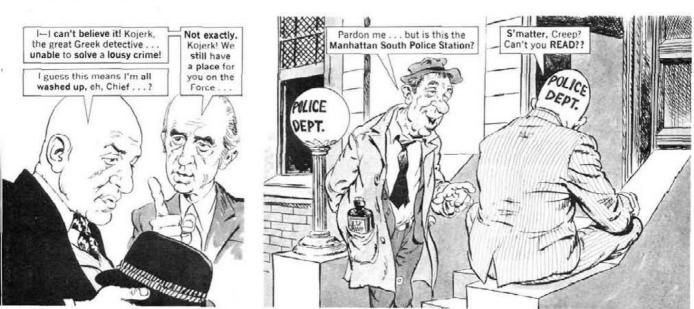
I think our killer may be in there! It's a big "Hood Hangout!" Wait for me! I'm going in alone . . . but in a clever disguise!

Listen, don't go in there, Kojerk! It could be very dangerous!









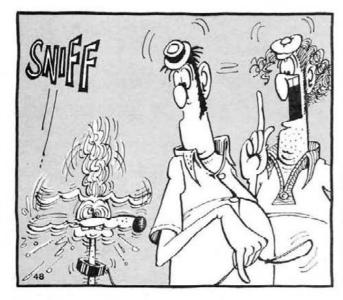
DON MARTIN DEPT. PART III

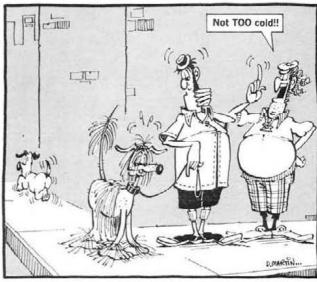
ONE TUESDAY AFTERNOON ON WEST MAIN STREET











WHAT IS THE **ONE DRIVING** HAZARD THAT **AUTO MAKERS TO REMOVE?**

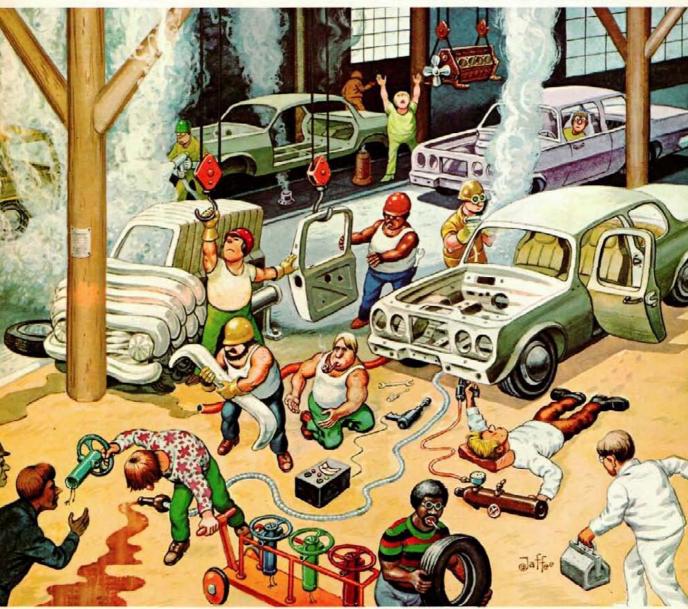
HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD-IN

For the past few years, tremendous pressure has been exerted on our nation's auto manufacturers to eliminate the unsafe elements in their cars. But no matter how hard they try, there is one cause of nasty accidents that they can't remove! To find out what it is, fold in the page as shown.



AP

FOLD THIS SECTION OVER LEFT ◀B FOLD BACK SO "A" MEETS "B"



ARTIST & WRITER: AL JAFFEE

DRAMATIC SAFETY FEATURES HAVE RESULTED IN SHRUNKEN HIGHWAY CASUALTY LISTS. AND YET, ONE DREADED CURSE TURNS OUR ROADS INTO BLOODY RIVERS AÞ **∢B**

WHO GOES UP... MUST COME DOWN!

